

## 10.6 HSC External Examination Specifications

### 10.6.1 Music 1 HSC Examination Specifications

While more than three topics may be studied during the HSC course, only THREE topics are to be presented for the HSC examination. Candidates must provide brief details on a 'Certification of Course Topics Studied' sheet of the Performance, Composition and Musicology activities undertaken in each of the THREE topics presented for examination in the HSC course.

The 'Certification of Course Topics Studied' sheet is supplied by the Board of Studies and handed to the examiners at the commencement of the practical examination.

#### **Core** **(40 marks)**

##### **Practical Examination — Core** **(10 marks)**

**Maximum performance time: 5 minutes**

All candidates will perform ONE piece on an instrument of their choice or voice. The piece may be a solo or an ensemble item.

In the case of an ensemble item, the part performed by the candidate in the ensemble must be clearly displayed.

The piece must represent ONE of the THREE topics studied in the HSC course as nominated on the 'Certification of Course Topics Studied' sheet.

##### **Written Examination — Core** **(30 marks)**

**Length of examination: 45–60 minutes**

The examination will consist of FOUR questions.

Each question may consist of several parts.

All questions will be compulsory.

The questions will relate to musical excerpts broadly reflecting the range of topics offered for study.

#### **Electives** **(60 marks)**

Electives available for the examination are Performance, Composition and Musicology.

Each elective has a mark value of 20. Candidates may choose **any combination** of electives to the mark value of 60.

Examples of combinations of electives:

Composition, Performance, Musicology  
Composition, Composition, Composition  
Musicology, Musicology, Performance etc

Candidates must represent in their choice of electives each of the THREE topics studied during the HSC course as nominated on the 'Certification of Course Topics Studied' sheet.

For example:

Elective 1	—	Topic 1
Elective 2	—	Topic 2
Elective 3	—	Topic 3

Performance and Musicology electives will be examined at the same time as the core practical examination. Composition electives will be examined in the form of submitted works.

**Performance — Elective** *(20 marks)*

**Maximum performance time: 5 minutes**

Candidates will perform ONE piece for each Performance elective. The piece must represent ONE of the THREE topics studied in the HSC course, as nominated on the 'Certification of Course Topics Studied' sheet.

The performance may be a solo or an ensemble item. In the case of an ensemble item, the part played by the candidate must be clearly displayed.

If more than one Performance elective is presented, each performance must represent a different topic from within the THREE topics studied in the HSC course, as nominated on the 'Certification of Course Topics Studied' sheet.

**Composition — Elective** *(20 marks)*

**Maximum composition length: 4 minutes**

Candidates will submit ONE original composition for each Composition elective.

The Composition must represent ONE of the THREE topics studied in the HSC course, as nominated on the 'Certification of Course Topics Studied' sheet.

If more than one Composition elective is presented, each Composition must represent a different topic from within the THREE topics studied in the HSC course, as nominated on the 'Certification of Course Topics Studied' sheet.

TWO copies of the written score and recording must be made. ONE copy of the written score and recording is to be submitted to the Board of Studies and the second copy and Composition Portfolio should be retained at the school. This copy should be available if necessary during the HSC examination marking operation.

A Composition Portfolio is to be developed as a record of the compositional process. This Portfolio may be requested by the Board of Studies to validate authorship of the composition.

The dates for submission will be notified by the Board.

*The marking of submitted compositions is based on both the written score and the recording. NOTE: The recording is used as a guide to the intention of the composer and therefore the technical quality will not be taken into consideration.*

**Musicology — Elective**

(20 marks)

**Length of *viva voce*: 10 minutes**

Candidates will prepare and present ONE *viva voce* for each Musicology elective.

The *viva voce* must represent ONE of the THREE topics studied in the HSC course, as nominated in the 'Certification of Course Topics Studied' sheet.

Candidates may specialise within a topic. Candidates must demonstrate an understanding of the use of the concepts of music in the topic studied. Students may demonstrate their understanding by using relevant musical examples.

Candidates will present to examiners one copy of the '*Viva Voce* Outline Summary Sheet' outlining the area of study for examination. The candidate may keep a copy of the same Outline Summary Sheet for their own use in the examination.

If more than one Musicology elective is presented, each *viva voce* must represent a different topic from within the THREE topics studied in the HSC course, as nominated on the 'Certification of Course Topics Studied' sheet.